

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 NEA-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 SY-04 AID-20 DRC-01 /173 W

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R 061515Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8491

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USDOCOSOUTH

USEUCOM

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 814

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PINS, CY, GR, TU

SUBJECT: MAKARIOS MEETS THE PRESS

REF: NICOSIA 595 AND 800

SUMMARY: MAKARIOS REITERATES STAND ON TALKS, ANNOUNCES STEPPED-UP CAMPAIGN AGAINST EOKA-B, UNDERScores DISPLEASURE RE ACTIVITIES NATIONAL GUARD AND ROLE OF ATHENS. FORECASTS PURGE OF TEACHERS' CORPS AND CIVIL SERVICE, AND INDIRECTLY DEFENDS PRESENCE OF USG MARINES AT SBA'S. END SUMMARY

1. IN MONTHLY PRESS CONFERENCE MAY 4, ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS RANGED WIDELY. OVERALL TONE WAS TOUGH, DETERMINED, CONFIDENT.

2. INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS: ARCHBISHOP RESTATED OPPOSITION TO FEDERALISM THOUGH, IN BLAMING TURK CYPRIOTS FOR STRAYING FROM EARLIER BASIS OF TALKS, HE DID NOT RPT NOT ONCE DEFINE THAT BASIS NOR USE TERM "UNITARY". ARCHBISHOP ADDED THAT, IN EVENT TALKS
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DO NOT RPT DO NOT RESUME, HE MIGHT CONVENE MEETING ALL POLITICAL

PARTIES AND ORGANIZATIONS TO DISCUSS SITUATION. (COMMENT: MAKARIOS' NEGATIVE ACCENT ON PROSPECTS FOR RESUMPTION IN FULL ACCORD WITH CLERIDES' MAY 3 REMARKS--NICOSIA 800.) ARCH-BISHOP CONFIRMED THAT UN AND DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES FAVOR RESUMPTION OF TALKS BUT POINTEDLY NOTED THAT "GOVERNMENT" HAS RESPONSIBILITY FOR DECISION-MAKING.

3. EOKA-B: MAKARIOS SAID THAT SECURITY FORCES WOULD TAKE STRONGER STEPS AGAINST EOKA-B, AND HE FORECAST EARLY LIQUIDATION OF ORGANIZATION. NO RPT NO FURTHER GRACE PERIOD WOULD BE GIVEN FOR WANTED MEN TO SURRENDER; SEARCH FOR THEM WOULD RESUME. HE AGAIN DECLARED THERE NO RPT NO EOKA-B LEADER, ONLY PETTY WARLORDS. (COMMENT: IN FIRST SUCH ACTION SINCE GRIVAS' DEATH, TRU MAY 4 CAPTURED WEAPONS AND OTHER MATERIEL, ARRESTED FIVE PERSONS IN NICOSIA. SOME PRESS HAVE PORTRAYED THIS AS ONSET OF MAJOR GOVT CAMPAIGN AGAINST EOKA-B.)

4. RELATIONS WITH ATHENS: MAKARIOS FIELDERD SERIES OF TOUGH QUESTIONS RE ATHENS AND ROLE OF NATIONAL GUARD IN CYPRUS. HE DECLINED COMMENT ON REPORTED ANTI-MAKARIOS SLOGANS IN ATHENS AND ATHENS PRESS COVERAGE OF CYPRUS. HE SKIRTED DIRECT ANSWER TO QUESTION RE MARCH 25 ARRESTS OF NATIONAL GUARDSMEN AT THE ARCHBISHOPRIC. HE DENIED HE HAD ASKED ATHENS TO RECALL NATIONAL GUARD CHIEF OF STAFF PAPADAKIS, OR ANY OTHER OFFICER. (COMMENT: ARCHBISHOP'S DISPLEASURE WITH NATIONAL GUARD VERY REAL, THOUGH HIS ANSWERS MORE MUTED THAN IN APRIL 6 PRESS CONFERENCE (REF NICOSIA 595). GREEK EMBASSY DCM CONFIRMS THAT GOCYPRUS HAS NOT RPT NOT ASKED FOR RECALL ANY NATIONAL GUARD OFFICER. PAPADAKIS HAS TOLD DATT HE WILL COMPLETE HIS TOUR "SOON" (IMPLICATION WAS "JUNE"). PAPADAKIS IS CURRENT BETE NOIRE OF GOCYPRUS, AND CHANCE FOR IMPROVEMENT ATHENS/NICOSIA RELATIONS WILL IN LARGE PART DEPEND ON MAN WHO REPLACES HIM.)

5. PURGE OF CIVIL SERVANTS AND TEACHERS CORPS: MAKARIOS CONFIRMED GOCYPRUS WILL PURGE CERTAIN CIVIL SERVANTS AND TEACHERS ENGAGED IN ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES, SPECIFICALLY "ANARCHY...PREVAILING IN CERTAIN SECONDARY SCHOOLS." RE LATTER POINT, HE CONFIRMED THAT ELEMENTS OUTSIDE SCHOOLS HAD ALSO BEEN INVOLVED
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IN APRIL 29 FAMAGUSTA INCIDENT BUT DID NOT RPT NOT REFER TO REPORTED INVOLVEMENT OF TWO NATIONAL GUARDSMEN AT MAY 2 INCIDENT IN NICOSIA'S ACROPOLIS GYMNASIUM. (REF FBIS 030920) GOVT HAS NOT RPT NOT YET DRAWN UP FINAL LIST OF PERSONS TO BE DISMISSED.

6. PARA-STATE ORGANIZATIONS: ARCHBISHOP REPEATED GOVT'S OPPOSITION TO EVERY ARMED ORGANIZATION AND RENEWED CALL FOR

ALL SUCH GROUPS TO SURRENDER WEAPONS BY MAY 11, FAILING WHICH
"SYSTEMATIC CAMPAIGN WILL BE MOUNTED AGAINST THEM".

7. U.S. MARINES ON SBA'S: MAKARIOS DEFENDED USE OF SBA'S
FOR SUEZ CANAL OPERATION AS GOCYPRUS' CONTRIBUTION TO UN
EFFORT FOR PEACE AND ORDER IN MIDDLE EAST. STATIONING OF U.S.
MARINES AT DHEKELIA CONNECTED WITH THIS OPERATION WOULD BE
FOR LIMITED PERIOD. HE DISCLAIMED ANY INFORMATION RE PRESS
REPORTS OF US/UK AGREEMENT ON PERMANENT USE OF DHEKELIA BY
AMERICANS, ADDED BRITAIN HAD NO RPT NO RIGHT TO MAKE BASES
AVAILABLE FOR USE BY ANY COUNTRY AND WARNED THAT IF IT DID SO,
QUESTION OF FUTURE EXISTENCE OF BASES WOULD ARISE. (COMMENT:
THESE REMARKS ON THE WHOLE POSITIVE, BUT WILL NOT RPT NOT
STOP ONGOING CRITICISM AGAINST NIMBUS STAR AND SBA'S. COMMUNIST
"NEI KERI" MAY 6 QUICKLY REKINDLED REPORT OF U.S. DESIGNS FOR
DHEKELIA, RENEWED CALL FOR TERMINATION OF SBA'S.)
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